

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 16396 071101Z

14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 H-02 NSC-05 OMB-01 /066 W

----- 017239

R 071051Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

SECSTATE WASHDC 3435

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16396

E. O. LL652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, GW, PINR, MILI

SUBJECT: NEW APPOINTMENT TO MILITARY COMMITTEE OF
NATO

REF: BONN 16286

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE FRG HAS APPOINTED REAR ADMIRAL
HERBERT TREBESCH AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE
MILITARY COMMITTEE OF NATO. HE SUCCEEDS LT. GENERAL
GUENTHER RALL, WHO WAS FORCED TO RETIRE BECAUSE OF AN
UNAUTHORIZED VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA (BONN 16286).
CURRENTLY CHIEF OF THE POLITICAL-MILITARY SECTION OF
THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, (FMOD), TREBESCH
HAS ALSO SERVED AS MILITARY ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON.
INTELLIGENT AND WELL-VERSED IN NATO AFFAIRS, HE
SHOULD BE A DISTINCT ASSET TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE.
END SUMMARY

1. APPRAISAL: ADMIRAL TREBESCH IS VERY COMPETENT
AND VERY INTELLIGENT. HE UNDERSTANDS U.S. METHODS
OF THINKING AND ACTION, AND HAS WON THE PROFESSIONAL
AND PERSONAL RESPECT OF THOSE AMERICANS WHO HAVE
HAD TO DEAL WITH HIM. ADMIRAL TREBESCH IS AN ABLE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 16396 071101Z

PROPONENT OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS, WHILE AT THE

SAME TIME UNDERSTANDING THE POSITION AND SENSITIVENESS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS. SPEAKING EXCELLENT ENGLISH, HE IS REPUTED ALSO TO BE FLUENT IN ITALIAN AND SPANISH AND TO KNOW SOME FRENCH. HIS WIDE BACKGROUND IN POLITICAL MILITARY AFFAIRS MADE HIM A NATURAL CHOICE FOR THE POSITION OF FRG REPRESENTATIVE ON THE MILITARY COMMITTEE OF NATO.

2. COMMENT: SINCE TREBESCH IS EXPECTED TO BE REPLACED BY AN ARMY GENERAL, HIS MOVE TO BRUSSELS WILL BREAK UP A NAVAL DOMINANCE IN THE BROAD POLITICAL-MILITARY FIELD. CURRENTLY THREE ADMIRALS DOMINATE THIS SCENE IN THE FMOD: ZIMMERMANN AS . INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE BUNDESWEHR (EQUIVALENT TO OUR CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS), STEINHAUS AS DIRECTOR OF LONG RANGE PLANNING, AND TREBESCH AS HEAD OF THE EQUIVALENT OF ISA.

3. BIOGRAPHIC DETAILS: ADMIRAL TREBESCH WAS BORN NOVEMBER 7, 1915 IN HAMBURG. HE ENLISTED IN THE GERMAN NAVY IN 1935 WHERE HE SERVED UNTIL THE END OF THE WAR REACHING THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT. FROM 1952 TO 1957, HE SERVED IN THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES AND THE GERMAN CONSULATE IN CALI, COLUMBIA.

4. TREBESCH ENTERED THE BUNDESWEHR IN 1957 WITH THE RANK OF LT. COMMANDER. FROM 1957 TO 1960, HE SERVED ON THE NAVY STAFF IN BONN. ASSIGNED TO ROME, HE SERVED AS NAVAL ATTACHE THERE UNTIL MID-1963. HE THEN RETURNED TO BONN WHERE HE SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT STAFF FOR POL/MIL MATTERS UNTIL JANUARY OF 1966. AT THAT TIME HE BECAME ADJUTANT TO MINISTERS OF DEFENSE VON HASSEL AND SCHROEDER. FROM OCTOBER OF 1968 TO MARCH OF 1971, HE SERVED AS THE FRG'S DEFENSE ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON. SINCE APRIL OF 1971, HE HAS BEEN HEAD OF THE FMOD'S EQUIVALENT OF ISA. NAMED REAR ADMIRAL IN 1968 (L.H.) AND 1971 (U.H.), HE WILL BE PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF VICE-ADMIRAL WHEN HE TAKES UP HIS NEW POSITION IN NATO.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 16396 071101Z

5. POST SCRIPTUM: THOSE WHO MEET ADMIRAL TREBESCH FOR THE FIRST TIME ARE APT TO BE MESMERIZED BY HIS WELL-WAXED EYEBROWS, WHICH ARE SURELY THE LONGEST AND MOST LUXURIANT IN THE ENTIRE GERMAN NAVY.
HILLENBRAND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, COMMITTEES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN16396
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750347-0757
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751075/aaaacpeq.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BONN 16286
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <28 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW APPOINTMENT TO MILITARY COMMITTEE OF NATO
TAGS: PINR, MILI, GE, NATO, (TREBESCH, HERBERT), (RALL, GUENTHER)
To: NATO BRUSSELS STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006